[Mr. R. Krishna Pillai.]

(*b*) Will the Government be pleased to state from what year *kudivila* has to be paid, what the amount due in each year is, and what amount has actually been paid?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) and (*b*) *Kudivila* is at present one-half of the net sale proceeds of royal trees cut and removed from private lands to the Government depôts by contractors engaged for the purpose, unless the proprietors of these lands require them for their own use in which case they are called upon to pay the Government half the tariff rates. The supply contracts of the department usually run for a period of 2 to 3 years and the sale of timbers worked thereunder is likewise spread over the same period. It is only when all the timber delivered at the depôts as per the terms of a contract is disposed of and the accounts of the contractor are settled, that claims for *kudivila* can be taken up for consideration. In view of this and as accounts have to be kept contractwar, it is not possible to state exactly the year up to which *kudivila* has been paid, the year from which it is in arrears, and the extent of the arrears relating to each year. A statement* showing the amount of *kudivila* paid in the years 1094 to 1098 is laid on the table. As the question of granting full proprietorship over royal trees standing on private lands is now under the consideration of the Free Pass Committee, any scheme for simplifying the procedure now in vogue for payment of *kudivila* has to await the report of that committee.

Payment of Kudivila.

245. MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha*): (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state the total amount pending payment up to the 30th Karakatakam last on account of *kudivila* on trees?

(*b*) Will the Government be pleased to arrange for the immediate payment of such dues?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) and (*b*) The member is referred to the answer to interpellation No. 244.

Imposition of Prohibitory Assessment on Members of the Depressed Classes.

246. MR. C. RAMANKUNJU (*Nominated*): How many occupants belonging to the depressed classes were charged with prohibitory assessment during the last five years and what was the amount realised thereby?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): One hundred and four occupants were charged with prohibitory assessment during the last five years and a sum of Rs. 346 was realised thereby.

*Vide appendix II—page 916.

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